Dear Colleagues,

My name is Aaron Shkuda and I am the Project Manager of the Princeton-Mellon Initiative in Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities, a new three-year program that fosters collaboration between scholars studying urban life and the built environment. Our goals include encouraging interdisciplinary collaborations across campus, developing team-taught courses with project-based outcomes and/or experiential components, and fostering research and teaching which examine “Cities of the Americas” through a transnational, hemispheric lens: http://www.princeton.edu/arc-hum/

I am writing to invite you to the kickoff of our bi-weekly research forum, which will also serve as the official launch of our program. The event will take place on **Monday, September 22 at 4:30 pm in Chancellor Green 105** and feature a discussion on "Thinking Hemispherically about Cities," featuring Stan Allen (Architecture), Fabrizio Gallanti (Princeton-Mellon Senior Fellow), and Alison Isenberg (History). After brief comments by the panelists, we will invite the audience to introduce themselves and their research. The aim of this participatory session is to launch a conversation that will continue for the semester, and year, ahead.

Each semester the Princeton-Mellon forum will focus on a different interdisciplinary theme and feature two new faculty conveners. This semester’s forum focuses on “American Places” and will be led by William Gleason (English/American Studies) and Bruno Carvalho (Spanish/Portuguese). The Spring forum will focus on the theme of “Infrastructure." We hope you can join us on the 22nd, and at the rest of the semester’s events. Please forward this message widely, particularly to interested graduate students.

**The Princeton Mellon Form for Research on the Urban Environment**
**Fall 2014: American Places**

Sept. 29, Noon, SoA 107: Stadium Cultures in North and South America  
Sigrid Adriaenssens (Civil Engineering), Bruno Carvalho (Spanish/Portuguese), William Gleason (English/American Studies)

Mariana Mogilevich (Princeton-Mellon Fellow) and Aaron Shkuda (Princeton-Mellon Project Manager); Discussant: Zahid R. Chaudhary (English)

Nov. 3, Noon (Prospect House Presidential Dining Room): Chocolate Cities and Vanilla Suburbs: Race, Space and American Culture After World War II  
Eric Avila (History, UCLA)

Nov. 17, 4:30 pm: Cities of the Americas  
Zaire Dinzey-Flores (Rutgers, Sociology), and Johana Londono (Princeton-Mellon Fellow), additional participants TBD

Dec. 8, Noon, SoA 107 – New Orleans  
Josh Guild (History) and Malik Rahim (Community activist)

Sincerely,
Aaron Shkuda
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